



MIDDLE SCHOOL RESOURCE

God's Way: Session 2

No Other Gods

Key Statement: The First Commandment 1) shows God's love, 2) places Him first, and 3) protects us from idols.

::CONNECT::

Option 1: Sci-Fi Story

- Inform students that they are going to create a sci-fi story. They can either act it out or draw it. Here's the premise:
 - Mysteriously, the sun has disappeared. What happens next?
- Students should come up with stories where the planets lose their orbits, people have to struggle with the sudden loss of heat and light, etc.
- Allow students a few minutes to compose and present their stories.
- Now, connect the loss of the sun to not having God as the first and most important thing in our lives. If the sun were to disappear, we'd lose our gravity, heat, light, and almost all our energy. If God is not our center, everything gets thrown off, from our values to our relationships to our priorities.

Option 2: Winning Someone's Trust

- Lead students to produce a picture or a skit of someone earning another person's trust. Invite them to share the skit or drawing with the group.
- Look for connections between the different depictions of gaining trust. In particular, point out patterns of selflessness for another person's benefit as a means of gaining trust.
- Now, connect those patterns to God's actions toward the Israelites: He used the plagues on Egypt, lead them across the Red Sea, brought them out of slavery, and spoke to them at Sinai in order to show His affection toward them. He more than earned their trust. So they should see His Commandments as an act of love (first point from the session).
- It's even stronger for us. We have seen Jesus die on the cross and rise again. If God would give His own Son for us, He has earned our trust a hundred times over. We also ought to trust Him and do what He says.

::CONVEY::

If you are pressed for time this week, consider spending the majority of your Convey time by focusing on points two and three of the session.

Remember, this is merely a suggested outline adaptation for a middle school group. If you decide to incorporate one or more option into your group time, you will likely have to be very selective on the material you decide to teach through. Keep in mind that each class is different, and as the leader guide suggests, personalize the lesson content for your class by determining what elements are most applicable. Don't feel pressured to teach through all of the content in a single meeting, but instead help middle school students to see the main overall point and big picture the lesson is conveying.

::COLLIDE::

See Leader Guide